REMARKS

Claims 2-12, 17-21 and 25-32 are pending. Claims 2, 8, 17, 25-29 and 31 were amended to incorporate the limitations of their respective independent claims. Claims 1, 13-16 and 22-24 were canceled.

The Examiner indicated in the Advisory Action dated August 14, 2006 that the "Response After Final Rejection Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116" filed August 7, 2006 will be entered and that the arguments in the response overcomes (1) the claim objections; (2) the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, rejection; and (3) the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for claims 2, 8, 17, 25-29 and 31, given in the Final Rejection. The Examiner further indicated that claims 2, 8, 17, 25-29 and 31 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of their respective base claims and intervening claims. The present amendment therefore places claims 2, 8, 17, 25-29 and 31 in condition for allowance, and cancels all rejected claims.

Entry of Rule 116 Response

Entry of this response is requested because this response does not raise any new issues that would require further consideration and/or search. No new claims are being presented in this response. No new matter is raised by this response. This response could not have been previously presented because the Examiner's position regarding allowable claims was not previously known. Lastly, it is requested that the response be entered even if the application is not allowed because this response will place the application in better form for appeal by materially simplifying the issues.

If the application is not in proper form for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner telephone the undersigned to discuss any further outstanding issues.

Conclusion

Insofar as the Examiner's rejections were fully addressed, the instant application is in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the Final Rejection, formal entry of the "Response After Final Rejection Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116" filed on August 7, 2006 response, formal entry of the

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present "Amendment After Final," and issuance of a Notice of Allowability of all pending claims is therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

WILBUR H. HIGHLEYMAN et al.

September 12, 2006 By:

CLARK A. JABLON Registration No. 35,039

AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP

One Commerce Square 2005 Market Street - Suite 2200

Philadelphia, PA 19103-7086 Telephone: (215) 965-1200 Direct Dial: (215) 965-1293

Facsimile: (215) 965-1210 E-Mail: cjablon@akingump.com

CAJ:gem